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BY HAND

The Honorable William M. Nickerson
United States District Court
for the District of Maryland
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: United American Line v.
Safmarine Container Lines N.V.
and M/V SAUDI MAKKAH, in rem
Case No. WMN-01-3817

Dear Judge Nickerson:

Friday afternoon we heard from counsel for defendant, Safmarine Container Lines N.V. We are under pending Order of February 26, 2002 to take an entry of default or report as to why such Motion would be inappropriate on or before March 12, 2002. Mr. Michael Fernandez of Freehill, Hogan & Mahar's office in New York has advised that he has just received the claim documents and needs some additional time to respond or otherwise answer the attached Complaint. Also, in light of the amount involved (\$11,000), we will be discussing settlement. Accordingly, we request an extension of time for requiring a response from defendant Safmarine up to and including April 1, 2002.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

David W. Skeen

" APPROVED " THIS 12th DAY
OF March, 20 02
Wm. P. Constable
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
Encl.

cc via fax: Michael Fernandez, Esquire (212)425-1901
Freehill, Hogan & Mahar, LLP

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